

Appl. No.: (not yet assigned)

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/09137)

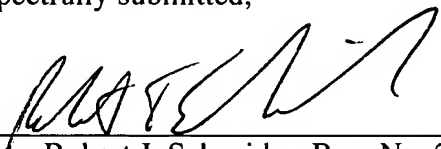
Preliminary Amdt. Dated January 19, 2005

REMARKS:

By this Amendment, claims 2-4 currently pending in the international application have been amended to more clearly define the invention under U.S. rules. The contents of the priority application, Japanese Pat. App. Ser. No. 2002-210923 filed July 19, 2002, and the international application, PCT/JP03/09137 filed July 18, 2003, are hereby incorporated in this application by reference.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305. The Examiner is encouraged to call the attorneys for Applicant(s) at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Robert J. Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Date: January 19, 2005

Attorneys for Applicants:

Robert J. Schneider

CHAPMAN AND CUTLER LLP

111 West Monroe Street, 16th Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60603-4080

Telephone: 312-845-3919